

The regular meeting of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden was held on September 22, 1975 with Chairman, Thomas Colgan presiding.

The minutes of the June 23 meeting were circulated. The minutes were corrected to add the title of Ordinance 7- Discharging rifle, etc. or other explosives. The minutes as amended were approved.

The Trustees asked the Advisory Committee to suggest nominees for Trustee to fill the vancancy caused by Philip Cohen's death. The Trustees nominated Thomas Colgan to fill the vacancy and his name will be submitted to referendum. His nomination has to receive the approval of the majority of the residents. If Thomas Colgan is confirmed as Trustee, he will resign as Chairman of the Town Assembly.

The financial report of the Trustees was circulated. The report indicated that there is \$96,000.43 available , but the taxes total \$76,202.72. The Trustees would like to accumulate a balance of \$20,000. in the reserve. The report of the Trustees on motion was accepted.

The Board of Assessors report by Carl VonDreele clarified the questions raised as the application of the commercial factor and domicile rule.

The commercial factor applies only to Lot No. 88 which contains a luncheonette and barber shop. This is a "non-conforming" use when the lot was changed from commercial to residential. The lot is recognized as commercially used property in the county's assessment of the land. Cases of apartment houses and part-time home businesses are not considered commercial uses under County zoning.

The domicile rule was revised principally by inserting the words " for the purpose of producing income," because the Board felt that only in such circumstances is there enhancement in the value of the land, supporting a higher land rental.

The letter of explanation from the Board of Assessors on motion was accepted.

Auditing Committee no report.

Budget Committee report was presented by Paul Thompson. The estimated income is \$110,200. \$68,050 is reserved for county and school taxes and \$15,000 for sewer assesment and \$5,500. is reserved for administrative expenses. The amount subject to budgeting is \$21,650. The balance for reserve is \$2,000; therefore, the total budgeted expenses are \$19,650.

Note 2 read "these two expenses (Roads and Commons and Forests) may be interchangeable at the discretion of the Civic Committee and any funds not expended can be carried over to the following year.

On motion this note was amended to read" These two expenses may be interchangeable at the discretion of the Civic Committee and any funds not expended can be carried over to the following year only if contractual obligations have been made before the end of the fiscal year. The amendment carried.

The budget for March, 1976 to March, 1977 carried as amended and will presented for vote by referendum.

The Civic Committee report was presented by Warren Hoffman. Work was completed on Hillside Road, Orleans Road, Lovers Lane and the Highway. Concrete gutters installed on Orleans Road have performed as anticipated and have solved a long standing drainage problem. Additional repair work was done on various town roads. Some locations on roads recently repaved had to be redone because underground water was undermining the pavement. The committee is planning additional work on Pond Road, Little Lane and possibly Orleans Road in October.

The Civic Committee is also responsible for work on greens and forests. A number of dead trees were removed throughout the village. Many elms are dying from Dutch Elm disease. Elms that have cut down should be burned or removed. The disease will continue to spread from the wood.

Preparations are being made for snow removal for the winter.

Discussions were held with the Safety Committee to determine proper jurisdiction for granting parking on the Commons. It was determined that Ordinance 1 specifically grants authority to the Safety Committee to establish temporary parking in no parking areas. Henceforth, it will be necessary to apply to the Civic Committee for exclusive use of a facility such as the Frank Stephens Memorial Theater and to separately apply to the Safety Committee for parking. The Civic Committee will give the Safety Committee a copy of all permits and the Safety Committee will enforce all relevant Arden ordinances. Marshalls must be provided to ensure that vehicles are properly parked. The report on motion accepted.

Community Planning Committee: A new addition of the Arden Book with a new cover is being prepared. A walking tour through Arden is planned for November 15.

Registration Committee reported that there were 403 residents as of September 22.

Safety Committee report by Shaul Gladstone.

The proposed Arden Ordinance No. 7, Discharging rifle, etc. or other explosives was tabled at the June 23 Town Assembly. The committee under old business will ask that the ordinance be taken from the table so that the third reading can be conducted.

Joint discussions with the Civic Committee have established procedures for public and private events held on town property. If it impossible to conduct events without a temporary change in traffic or parking regulations, then a separate application must be made to the Safety Committee as provided for in Arden Ordinance No. 1, Section 201. the Arden Safety Code.

Dogs have become a major concern again. It is the attention of the committee to arrange with the Game Warden's office for special patrols to pick up all loose dogs until the problem is solved. This service will have to be paid for. No further warnings will be given; so please pass the word about.

The report on motion was accepted.

A letter was circulated by Mary Somerville concerning the dangers of round worms. This letter was not sponsored by any committee in Arden, although the Safety Committee members telephone numbers were listed.

Buzz Ware Village Center report:

Number of repairs have been completed. New rain gutters and down spout have been installed. New oil burner installed. Hope to have a new front door soon. New curtains on the stage conference room will be hung soon. The contract with the Montessori school can be renegotiated at the end of two years if expenditures are larger. The committee will discuss increasing the fee by about \$500. per year for the balance of the three years remaining on 5 year contract. Marjorie van Gulick is attempting to set up new programs. The report on motion accepted.

Advisory Committee reports are all covered by the committees.

Thomas Colgan reported that the gift of the stile by the Merry-Go-Rounders was accepted at a dedication ceremony. Harold Monfort made the sign and the stile. A motion was made and passed that a letter of appreciation be sent to the Merry-Go-Rounders and Harold Monfort from the Town Assembly.

The Harvey Road Committee was suggested be laid down. A motion was made and passed that this suggestion be tabled.

The Annexation Committee has not had a meeting, but members of the committee are gathering information concerning possibility of annexing Ardencroft.

No report from Delaware League of Local Government or Brandywine Council.

Arden 75th Anniversary Committee report was given by John Hewlett.

Plans have been formed for the big day on October 5, 1975. There will be photographic, book, archives exhibits. Plant sales, orders taken for the Arden map, walking tours and a wonderful dinner. The evening will be climaxed by scenes from "Twelfth Night" in the Frank Stephens Memorial Theatre. Hostesses from Ardencroft are serving coffee and cakes to our guests during the early part of the celebration. The report on motion accepted.

Aaron Hamburger reported for the Mount Pleasant School Board. The school board has submitted a brief to the court supporting a voluntary method of solving desegregation. If the present plan of redistricting is forced on the school district the school tax could run as high as 100 % over current level.

Negotiations are ⁱⁿ progress between the school board and the teachers.

A motion was made and passed to lift Ordinance #7, Discharging rifle, etc. or other explosives from the table and act upon it.

Shaul Gladstone reported that the state law concerning bows and arrows state they cannot be used within 100 yards of any residence and you must have a 10 to 12 foot earthen embankment. The intent is to prohibit arrows except when controlled by strict safety measures.

The amendment to Ordinance #7 proposed at the June Town Assembly: "on or into the roads, trails, paths, greens or forests of Arden without first obtaining a permit from the Safety Committee." was presented to the Town Assembly, but the motion was defeated.

A motion was made by the Safety Committee that section 4 be added to the Ordinance #7.

4. Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed as restricting the legal ownership of arms, the legal possession of arms or the constitutional right to bear arms. The amendment carried.

The third and final reading of Ordinance #7, Discharging rifle, etc. or other explosives, was read and on motion was approved.

The Special Committee to Review the Present Tax Program appointed by Thomas Colgan is: Michael Curtis, Henry Aughey, George Macklem, Elvie Grimaldi, Marjorie van Gulick, Nancy Hajar and Leon Tanzer, Chairman. After each member expressed his or her viewpoints on our present tax system, the committee planned an action program as follows:

1. Block out an analysis sheet dealing with every leasehold to analyse area, assessed value, tax dollar/acre assessed value, building assessment, land rent, and any other pertinent information uncovered during the researching for this analysis.
2. The committee is going to have developed, thanks to Warren Hoffman, a computer analysis of any alternative plans developed by this committee. The object of this analysis is to show how each alternative affects each leaseholder.

We would like to bring our findings to the January Town Assembly.

The report of the committee was accepted.

Under new business the following were nominated for Assessors to elected by referendum:

Marjorie van Gulick	Carl Von Dreele
George Macklem	Hugh Roberts
Jane Aughey	Nancy Hajar
Frank Herzog	Bernard Brachman
Cheryl Jones	Burley Melton
Harold Monfort	Thomas Stapleford
Eugene Shaw	Matthew O'Conner
Charlotte Shedd	Richard Lynch

A motion was made and carried that the Town Assembly authorize the Safety Committee to form patrols over the Halloween season.

A motion was made and passed that the Buzz Ware Village center ask representation from Ardentown and Ardencroft. These representative would not have voting status.

Ted Davis is teaching a course in single tax. Residents are urged to attend.

Motion was made and passed that the Village of Arden join the Delaware League of Local Governments for fiscal year 1975.

The meeting on motion adjourned,

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Morley
Mary Morley
Secretary